JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM IDENTIFICATION FORM

AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY : CIA

RECORD NUMBER : 104-10132-10332

RECORD SERIES : JFK

AGENCY FILE NUMBER: 80T01357A

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

AGENCY ORIGINATOR : CIA

FROM :

TO:

TITLE: INFORMATION ON GORDON DWANE NOVEL, RICHARD L. BLAST

AND REDEX.

DATE: 01/01/1967

PAGES: 4

SUBJECTS : REDEX

BLAST, RICHARD NOVEL, G.D.

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER CLASSIFICATION : SECRET RESTRICTIONS : 1B

CURRENT STATUS : RELEASED IN PART PUBLIC - RELEASED WITH DELETIONS

DATE OF LAST REVIEW: 08/20/93

COMMENTS: JFK47: F6B: 1993.08.20.15:03:07:960028

Released under the John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 (44 USC 2107 Note). Case#:NW 85924 Date: 10-26-2021

[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED 104-10132-10332

CONET

A. NOVEL Is Polygraphed by Lloyd FURR on Garrison's Charges.

Gordon Dwane NOVEL, already a fugitive witness in the Garrison inquiry, is reported in the Washington press of 27 March 1967 as having been polygraphed the previous day on the case under investigation by Garrison. According to the press reports, NOVEL submitted to a polygraph examination conducted at McLean, Virginia by Lloyd FURR. In statements to the press, FURR indicated there was no indication of deception to NOVEL's charges that Garrison's case is a "fraud".

B. Lloyd FURR's Relationship to Richard L. BAST and REDEX.

Lloyd FURR, a former District of Columbia policeman and now a private detective, is a self-proclaimed polygraph "expert" and sound device specialist. He has received publicity in the past for planting sound devices for the late Fulton Lewis, Jr. in the St. Mary's County vice case in 1953 and in 1958 when he discovered listening devices being used against Bernard Goldfine. In 1964, information was received that a Washington, D. C. firm, REDEX, operated by FURR and Richard L. BAST, was attempting to sell electronic equipment to Communist China via an agent in Hong Kong. (TSD had unclassified contact with FURR in 1962 to see equipment offered for sale by FURR.)

C. Richard L. BAST and REDEX.

Richard L. BAST, a Washington, D. C. private detective, gained noteriety in 1965 by turning up a missing witness, previously unlocated by the Department of Justice, in connection with the Bobby Baker case. He is known to operate at least four enterprises: 1) CAPITAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, a private detective agency; 2) REDEX VIETNAM, INC., a firm which imports a variety of commodities ranging from liquor to automobiles into South Vietnam, including, of late, U. S. -recruited "go-go" girls for a Saigon nightclub he is planning; 3) REDEX CORP., a firm which sells almost anything to envisody abroad, other than South Vietnam; and 4) CONSOLIDATED ARMAMENTS, INC., a firm which sells small arms to foreign governments and private individuals abroad. BAST also produces and distributes both positive audio and counteraudio devices in the U. S. and

6/5/67

SECRET

overseas. BAST, described as "unscrupulous and untrust-worthy", is known to have attempted to contract with another private detective for planting a remote-controlled bomb in the headquarters of the Haiti Secret Police, and has been reported to have undertaken similar extreme assignments for exile groups from Haiti and the Dominican Republic. (Based on derogatory information on file, DCS, in March 1967, decided against previously contemplated contact with BAST as a source of information on Asia,)

D. BAST, REDEX, and William W. TURNER OF RAMPARTS

CA Stall has provided information that during January 1967. William W. TURNER, who identified himself as a free-lance writer, visited the offices of the Asia Foundation, requesting information for a magazine article. He stated that he had been asked by Sol Stern of New York to gather information for an article in the New York Times. During his visit, however, it became obvious that TURNER was primed to ask questions about the financing of the foundation, rather than its actual purpose or activities. When TURNER concluded the interview he left a calling card with the firm name "REDEX-PACIFIC". He explained he had to have new cards printed. TURNER, reportedly dismissed from the FBI in 1961, is noted to have authored an article in the November 1966 issue of RAMPARTS Magazine in which he describes alleged wiretapping/surreptitious entry, etc., performed by him while with the FBI. Sol Stern, whom he claimed to represent, is assistant managing editor of RAMPARTS Magazine.

E. Role of FURR and BAST in CIA Meeting of Exile

(The foregoing has attempted to detail the contact of NOVEL with FURR, FURR's connection with BAST, and a possible connection between BAST's organization and RAMPARTS.

The following indicates the only CIA involvement in the chain which might be exploited in subsequent attempts to link CIA to the entire affair in question.)

On 29 April 1963, Robert E. Owen, then Chief, WE/3 and now of Paris Station, directed a memorandum to the Chief

SECREJ

SECRET

WH/6 in which he documented a conversation he had on 27 April 1963, with Raymond CASSAGNOL, an anti-Duvalier exile from Haiti. In the memorandum he relates that the conversation took place in the home of Richard L. BAST whom Owen had met through a neighbor, Lloyd FURR.

The memorandum relates CASSAGNOL's background, family, political stance, etc. Reported as significant by Owen is a statement by BAST that the following week BAST would be sending a shiplead of arms to a CASSAGNOL-affiliated group in the Dominican Republic. Owen noted: "Raymond CASSAGNOL gives appearance of thinking well of Richard BAST. According to CASSAGNOL, his brother, Jacques, also knows BAST and respects him. Thus BAST, in spite of certain personal shortcomings from the intelligence standpoint, does represent an established channel to at least one segment of the Haitian opposition to Duvalier. Since according to his own statement, BAST is supplying arms to CASSAGNOL's groups, further transactions of this type via BAST presumably would not be difficult to arrange." He also provided a detailed information on what he learned of BAST, noting that BAST had mentioned Dominican distrust of State and AID and the fact that "CIA double-crossed them" (the Dominicans).

An FBI report on BAST dated 19 June 1963 reports that Owen, "Foreign Service Reserve Officer, USDS" (his cover) had reported 16 May 1963 his attendance at dinner at BAST's home on 27 April 1963. Owen told of his meeting with CASSAGNOL, BAST's intention to sell arms to the Dominican Republic and Haitian exiles, etc. He also reports that on 7 May 1963, BAST asked him to perform some translation work. The translation, he stated, related to BAST giving a power of attorney to one Luis MORENO Martinez of the Dominican Republic to prepare documentation for legal establishment of REDEX CORPORATION, C POR A, a DR branch of BAST's firm. According to Owen, 40% of the stock was to be held by the head of the DR National Security Agency, the head of the DR secret police, and an individual well-connected with Dominican Republic police and intelligence groups. BAST is also noted to have told Owen of an offer BAST had made to "bug" the office of the Dominican

EGRET

Secretary of State for the Armed Forces on behalf of Juan Bosch. BAST did not indicate to Owen if had performed the job.

(There is no record of a clearance having been issued for utilization of Richard L. BAST or REDEX.)